

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PEPR, XR

SUBJECT: ARA WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS - APRIL 27 - MAY 3

1. COSTA RICA INAUGURATION - ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN, FOLLOWING HIS MAY 3-5 VISIT TO MEXICO WITH THE SECRETARY FOR THE MEETING OF THE U.S.-MEXICAN CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM, WILL TRAVEL TO COSTA RICA MAY 6 FOR THE INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT CARAZO. MRS. CARTER WILL HEAD THE U.S. DELEGATION.

2. CECON, SUGAR, AND PROTECTIONISM - PROTECTIONISM WAS  
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THE PRINCIPAL THEM: AND SUGAR THE DOMINANT TOPIC AT THE OAS-CECON TRADE CONSULTATIVE MEETING IN SANTO DOMINGO APRIL 24-29. DAS ARELLANO LED THE U.S. DELEGATION. LATIN CRITICISM OF GSP AND THE THREAT OF PROTECTIONISM WAS FORCEFUL, BUT THE DELEGATION WAS ABLE, ESPECIALLY WITH CHILEAN COOPERATION, TO NEGOTIATE A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION ON GSP AND TO ABSTAIN ON RATHER

THAN VOTE AGAINST THE REMAINING PROPOSALS, OTHER THAN THE ONE ATTACKING OUR SUGAR POLICY WHERE IT FINALLY WAS NECESSARY TO REGISTER A NEGATIVE U.S. POSITION. WE ARE REVIEWING CECON FROM THE STANDPOINT OF U.S. INTERESTS AND HOW IT MIGHT BE TRANSFORMED INTO A MORE PRODUCTIVE MEANS OF CONSULTATION.

3. F-5'S DENIED TO GUATEMALA - THE SECRETARY DECIDED AGAINST SELLING TO GUATEMALA 5 F-5E'S REQUESTED BY PRESIDENT LAUGERUD. OUR AMBASSADOR TOLD THE GUATEMALAN PRESIDENT THAT IT IS U.S. POLICY NOT TO BE THE FIRST TO INTRODUCE INTO A REGION AN ADVANCED WEAPONS SYSTEM WHICH CREATES A NEW OR SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER COMBAT CAPABILITY. THE F-5E WOULD HAVE BEEN THE FIRST TRULY SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT IN CENTRAL AMERICA. THE PROPOSED SALE WAS ALSO CONSIDERED IN TERMS OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S COMMITMENT TO REDUCE ARMS TRANSFERS WORLDWIDE AND THE GLOBAL CEILING ON THE ARMS SOLD BY THE U.S. IN A GIVEN YEAR. PRESIDENT LAUGERUD SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE PROBLEMS AND ASKED ABOUT BUYING LESS SOPHISTICATED PLANES, SUCH AS THE F-100. THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE IMPLIED THE GUATEMALANS WILL NOW ATTEMPT TO BUY SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT FROM FRANCE, ISRAEL OR ANOTHER COUNTRY.

4. USSR ON THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO - IN A SPEECH ON APRIL 25 BREZHNEV STATED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD "DECIDED  
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TO ACCEDE IN DUE MANNER" TO THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO (I.E., TO PROTOCOL II), "LIKE OTHER NUCLEAR POWERS" NOT TO ASSIST ANY LATIN COUNTRY IN GAINING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, TO "RESPECT THE ZONE" AND TO REFRAIN FROM THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGAINST STATES PARTY TO THE AGREEMENT. THIS IS IMPORTANT TO OUR NON-PROLIFERATION GOALS IN LATIN AMERICA AND IT IS IMPORTANT FOR ENCOURAGING ACTION BY THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT COMPLETED THEIR OBLIGATION. (FRANCE, ARGENTINA, AND CUBA.)

5. STATE AND DOD OFFICERS VISIT PANAMA - AMBASSADOR POPPER (S/AB) AND LT. GENERAL DOLVIN OF DOD ARE HEADING A GROUP OF STATE AND DOD OFFICERS VISITING PANAMA BETWEEN MAY 1-5. THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT IS TO NEGOTIATE FINAL LANGUAGE FOR THE INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION FOR THE PANAMA CANAL TREATIES AND FOR THE PROTOCOL OF EXCHANGE. DRAFTS HAD BEEN EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, BUT THERE IS A NEED TO RECONCILE VIEWS ON HOW TO ADDRESS THE NON-INTERVENTION ISSUE IN THE INSTRUMENTS. AGREEMENT ON THE TEXTS OF THE INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION AND THE PROTOCOL OF EXCHANGE IS A NECESSARY PRELUDE TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT TO PANAMA JUNE 16-17 AT WHICH

TIME THE INSTRUMENTS WILL BE DELIVERED.

6. PETER JOHNSON OF OUR BUREAU'S CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE, IS LEAVING ARA FOR A SIMILAR POSITION IN EUR, WHERE HE WILL HAVE SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS ON THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS. PHYLLIS OAKLEY, FORMERLY OUR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OFFICER IN ARA/RPP, WILL REPLACE PETER IN PPC. PETER HAS EARNED MANY COMMENDATIONS FOR HIS OFFICE'S FINE WORK ON THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY EFFORT. CHRISTOPHER

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